



THE WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB AND TRUPANION ANNOUNCE INAUGURAL VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The award is designed to celebrate veterinary teams and illuminate the challenges they face in the profession

New York, NY — The Westminster Kennel Club, in partnership with Trupanion, announced the launch of its online Veterinarian of the Year Award. Nominations will be taken from March 14 to April 8, 2022, on <u>westminsterkennelclub.org</u>. There will be four regional finalists from within the US, with the ultimate winner being selected via voting on Westminster's social media channels. The award will create awareness for the mental well-being support needed by these passionate professionals and their teams.

In addition to a trip to the 2022 events, Westminster will donate \$10,000 in the winning veterinarian's name to MightyVet, a non-profit, industry-wide online platform. MightyVet was founded to support veterinarians, students, and vet techs tackling the issues of mental well-being and continuing education in the veterinary profession.

The Westminster Kennel Club is continuing its tradition of supporting the veterinary community and canine health. In 1987 the Club began its WKC Veterinary Scholarship program which has offered scholarships to students totaling over \$4.8 million to date. In 2017, the club established the Westminster Kennel Club Endowment Fund at: The University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, and Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health.

Trupanion exists to help loving, responsible pet owners budget and care for their pets, for life. Trupanion's tremendous support for the veterinary community through the founding of Veterinary Appreciation Day™, TruCuddle™, and involvement with non-profit organizations to give back to the veterinary community is a natural match for Westminster's long history of providing veterinary scholarships. An exciting extension of our partnership is the launch of the Veterinarian of the Year Award where we will recognize an outstanding veterinarian and their team.

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About the Westminster Kennel Club

The Westminster Kennel Club, established in 1877, is America's oldest organization dedicated to the sport of dogs. It hosts the iconic, all-breed Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, the second-longest, continuously held sporting event in the U.S., and since 1948, the longest nationally televised live dog show. The annual dog show—a conformation competition for purebred dogs—and the Masters Agility Championship and Masters Obedience Championship— where dogs from all backgrounds are eligible to compete—make Westminster Week with its over 3,000 dogs from the U.S. and around the world a pinnacle experience for any dog lover. America's Dog Show has captivated canine enthusiasts for more than a century. The Club's mission, which enhances the lives of all dogs, celebrates the companionship of dogs, promotes responsible dog ownership, and breed preservation. WESTMINSTER. *There's only one*.® Visit: westminsterkennelclub.org and follow us @WestminsterDogShow.

About Trupanion

Trupanion is a leader in medical insurance for cats and dogs throughout the United States, Canada and Australia with over 700,000 pets enrolled. For over two decades, Trupanion has given pet owners peace of mind so they can focus on their pet's recovery, not financial stress. Trupanion is committed to providing pet owners with the highest value in pet medical insurance with unlimited payouts for the life of their pets. With its payment solution, Trupanion is the only provider with the technology to pay veterinarians directly in seconds at the time of checkout. Trupanion is listed on NASDAQ under the symbol "TRUP". The company was founded in 2000 and is headquartered in Seattle, WA. For more information, please visit trupanion.com.